

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A polarizing plate protective film comprising a base film and a low-refractive-index layer formed on the base film, and a hard coating layer between the base film and the low-refractive-index layer,

the low-refractive-index layer including a metal oxide complex and a hollow microparticle which has a shell and a cavity formed inside the shell, the cavity being completely enclosed by the shell, ~~inorganic microparticles~~ and having a refractive index of 1.25 to 1.37,

the metal oxide complex being formed from at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a compound shown by the following formula (1): MX_n (wherein M represents a metal atom or a semimetal atom, X represents a halogen atom, a monovalent hydrocarbon group which may have a substituent, an oxygen atom, an organic acid radical, a β -diketonate group, an inorganic acid radical, an alkoxy group, or a hydroxyl group, and n represents the valence of M, provided that, when n is 2 or more, the Xs may be the same or different), a partial hydrolysate of at least one compound shown by the formula (1), and a complete hydrolysate of at least one compound shown by the formula (1), and having an $-(O-M)_m-O-$ bond (wherein M is the same as defined above, and m represents a positive integer) in the molecule, and

the hard coating layer including an activated energy ray-curable resin or a heat-curable resin.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The polarizing plate protective film according to claim 1 [[or 2]], wherein M is Si.

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The polarizing plate protective film according to ~~claim 4~~, claim 1, wherein the hard coating layer has a refractive index of 1.53 or more.

7. (Currently amended) The polarizing plate protective film according to ~~claim 4~~, any one of claims 1, 3 and 6, wherein the hard coating layer further includes electrically conductive microparticles.

8. (Currently amended) The polarizing plate protective film according to ~~claim 1~~, one of claims 1, 3 and 6, wherein the base film includes an alicyclic structure-containing polymer resin.

9. (Currently amended) A reflection preventive polarizing plate comprising the polarizing plate protective film according to ~~claim 1~~ one of claims 1, 3 and 6 as an observation-side protective film for the polarizing plate.

10. (Original) An optical product comprising the reflection preventive polarizing plate according to claim 9.

11. (New) The polarizing plate protective film according to claim 7, wherein the base film includes an alicyclic structure-containing polymer resin.

12. (New) A reflection preventive polarizing plate comprising the polarizing plate protective film according to claim 7 as an observation-side protective film for the polarizing plate.

13. (New) An optical product comprising the reflection preventive polarizing plate according to claim 12.